

Introduced: 2/13/79
Referred: State Affairs

1 IN THE SENATE

BY COLLETTA, RAY AND SUMNER

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 23

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Requesting the Secretary of the
6 United States Department of Transpor-
7 tation to revise the standard time
8 zones in which Alaska is located.

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

10 WHEREAS, alone among the 50 states, Alaska spans four time zones; there
11 is a three-hour time differential between Ketchikan and Nome; and

12 WHEREAS the present two-hour time differential between Southeastern
13 Alaska and Anchorage, Fairbanks and the communities of the Kenai Peninsula
14 and Prince William Sound creates confusion and difficulty in achieving and
15 maintaining sound commercial, efficient government and satisfying personal
16 communications; and

17 WHEREAS the elimination of this time differential between the existing
18 state capital and the centers of finance, trade and commerce and the future
19 state capital in Southcentral and Interior Alaska would resolve one of
20 Alaska's most compelling needs: the elimination of artificial barriers that
21 impair efforts to improve communications, thus welding together the widely
22 scattered population centers of this vast and varied state and bringing state
23 government closer to all the people of Alaska; and

24 WHEREAS "with due regard to the convenience of commerce and the junction
25 and division of points of common carriers engaged in interstate and foreign
26 commerce," the transfer of Southcentral and Interior Alaska to the Pacific
27 Standard Time Zone would foster "adherence to a greater uniformity of time"
28 within the State of Alaska and place most Alaskans on an identical time
29 schedule that would not inconvenience the traveler, the transportation in-

1 dustry, nor other commercial enterprise with important connections both in
2 Alaska and the "lower 48"; and

3 WHEREAS federal law (15 U.S.C. secs. 260-267; 49 U.S.C. sec. 1655(e)(5))
4 regulates the time on which all federal offices and common carriers engaged
5 in interstate and foreign commerce operate and grants to the U. S. Secretary
6 of Transportation the authority to redefine the boundaries of time zones that
7 serve the entire United States.

8 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Legislature requests the Secretary of the
9 United States Department of Transportation to redefine the boundaries of the
10 time zones in which Alaska is located by shifting those portions of it
11 located in the Alaska Standard Time Zone and the Yukon Standard Time Zone
12 into the Pacific Standard Time Zone at the earliest date possible.

13 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Brock Adams,
14 Secretary, U. S. Department of Transportation; and to the Honorable Ted
15 Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Don
16 Young, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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